

# Are You Prepared For Worship?

## I. The Meaning of Worship

### A. Some O.T. Worship

**Ex. 40:34,35** “Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

**35** And Moses was not able to enter the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.”

**Lev. 9:23,24** “And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of meeting, and came out and blessed the people. Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people,

**24** and fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar. When all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.”

**1 Chr. 29:10- 20** “Then David said to all the assembly, “Now bless the LORD your God.” So all the assembly blessed the LORD God of their fathers, and bowed their heads and prostrated themselves before the LORD and the king.

**21** And they made sacrifices to the LORD and offered burnt offerings to the LORD on the next day: a thousand bulls, a thousand rams, a thousand lambs, with their drink offerings, and sacrifices in abundance for all Israel.”

can you imagine that scene? one day, thousand bulls, rams, and lambs sacrificed  
these people knew how to worship

they knew about the glory of God, and they held back nothing in their worship

we can look into the past, and see how they worshipped, and be astonished by it

what if they could look to the future, and see how we worship? would they be astonished?

we meet a few hours a week, give few dollars a week,

and then some of us have trouble even giving that much to the Lord

and then we get fidgety if sermon is few minutes long really not much is it ? if that's all we do

we need to learn something about God's glory if we are going to worship Him

and we need to learn how to worship Him if we are going to go to heaven

well, if thought 1000 of each of those animals was a great sacrifice, - haven't seen anything yet

Solomon also grasped the idea of glory, and worshipped w/ a view to God's glory

**2 Chr. 7:1-6** notice vs. 5; imagine that scene 20,000 bulls, 120,000 sheep

### B. Worship of God in Heaven

**Rev. 4:8-11; 5:9-24**

*The Jews at these times and the angels and beings in heaven were ready to worship*

### C. The Object of Worship

we worship God - we are here to honor, reverence, give allegiance to God.

Its not just about us - we must encourage each other, but we are to give in worship - give to God, and secondarily to brethren, but we are he for God, not for us.

## II. Did You Even Come to Worship?

### A. Many Don't

75 members less than that attend even with kids and visitors

*\*\*\*how can the church even stay in fellowship with them??*

**Heb. 10:24-26** some had the habit of no attending - some here do as well

You can't worship if you can't even get there

vs. **26** these folks are sinning willfully - we don't have to guess about it, we don't have to judge their hearts or motives - we can read it in the book!

### B. Once is Enough

did you come for bible class? how about evening or mid-week service?

You honored God enough? You thanked and praised Him enough?

### C. How Long Did You Stay?

sometimes its like a football game - home teams losing for everyone heads out early - *are we losing that badly?*

In last weeks Carolina game when they beat Dallas no one left until long after the game was over because they wanted to savor the moment.

When the Jacksonville team returned home at 1:30 am there were 25,000 people to greet them at the stadium to celebrate with them.

In Green Bay 50,000 people sit out in the cold for every game

There is an NFL commercial showing a 77 year old man - he and his wife have only missed 11 games in 50 years. That in the heat, the rain, the cold and the snow.

Why - they want to be there.

### D. Just Send the Kids?

If its good for them why isn't it good for you?

its a terrible example - you teach them more by your absence than they will learn by their presence

## III. Aspects of the Worshiper

4 Aspects of man - **Luke 2:52** mental, physical, social, spiritual

### A. Mental

are we thinking about the AFC and NFC championship games that are being played today?

*a lot of folks don't enjoy coming, are late in arriving, early in leaving and bored while they are there*  
is your mind prepared?

study for classes, lessons, own study

**1 Cor. 11:28** you have to consider the L.S. when taking it

some people's mind isn't here enough to be up to the mental challenge of "examining themselves"

## B. Physical

- Is your body prepared?
- Did you get enough sleep? is your body impaired because of whatever you were doing last night?

Is that more important than the worship? *It was to you – if you gave it first place.*

- Are you on time?

**\*\*8:00 economics - poor attendance, slept through class, - poor grades were the result  
sleeper awake - Christ will shine on you Eph. 5:14 spiritual, but physical application as well**

## C. Social

no this is not the "social gospel" - but our relationship with one another

### 1.) Is Your Worship Only Social?

are you coming out of habit? why do some come only occasionally? habit to go, not a search for truth and desire to do right above all else

are you coming to please your parents? To please your spouse?

Remember - you not here for what you get out of it, what relationships your attendance keeps calm, you're not here to get a feeling - but to honor God.

### 2.) Are You Anti-Social

did you encourage? or did you tear down?

**1 Thess. 5:11** we must encourage each other - in worship and in other places

### 3.) What is your relationship with your brethren?

**Matt. 5:23,24** leave the temple and make things right

but some of us insult our brethren and harm them at the worship? How bad is that?

## D. Spiritual

**Jn. 4:23** worship in spirit and truth - the truth doesn't help you much if you don't have the spirit with it  
what is your spiritual condition?

can you sin on Saturday and worship on Sunday?

can the same mouth both bless and curse? **Jas. 3:9-12** some of us try

we heap sin upon sin if we sin in the week and act pious (hypocrite) at the service

**Isa. 66:1,2** "Thus says the LORD, "Heaven is My throne, and the earth is My footstool. Where then is a house you could build for Me? And where is a place that I may rest?"

**2** "For My hand made all these things, Thus all these things came into being," declares the LORD. "But to this one I will look, To him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word.

**3** "But he who kills an ox is like one who slays a man; He who sacrifices a lamb is like the one who breaks a dog's neck; He who offers a grain offering is like one who offers swine's blood; He who burns incense is like the one who blesses an idol. As they have chosen their own ways, And their soul delights in their abominations,

*If you aren't coming pure - or repentant - you're not prepared for worship.*

## Invitation

### 1.) What kind of people will go to heaven?

a worshipping type of people

God will take to heaven people who understand His glory and worship it and they must be a type of people who seek and praise God's glory in this life have we forgotten how to worship?  
did we ever learn how?

### 2.) Inter-Connectivity of the Saints

from the many the whole is made, we are one body 1 Cor. 12:13-15

if several are weak, all is weak

ever know a man with strong arms and legs and a weak heart?

*are we prepared as a group?*

### 2.) What if this were your last worship?

What if we somehow knew this would be our very last opportunity to worship before the Lord returned to judge us.

1st - I suggest most of us would make the effort to be here

2nd - I don't think you'd wander in late, have a lazy attitude, and snooze through the lesson

3rd - you'd probably be on the edge of your seat, giving 100% of yourself to the worship.

4th - you might even be ready to repent at the invitation.

Keep in mind, every worship service is potentially our last.